

Only Newspaper
Published In Torrance

Over 60,000 People Live
Within 5-Mile Radius



Torrance Herald

One
Section
8 Pages
This Issue

EIGHTEENTH YEAR—No. 32

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, 1932

5c PER COPY

HITCHCOCK OF C. C. M. O. IS APPOINTED NEW COUNCILMAN

Mayor Klusman Casts Only Negative Vote For Appointment; Hitchcock Made Public Works Commissioner Over Mayor's Objections

James E. Hitchcock, shop foreman of the C. C. M. O., was appointed city councilman and commissioner of public works by the Torrance council this week. He was immediately sworn in and took part in the remainder of the meeting, which lasted until nearly midnight.

The councilman was born 45 years ago at Oskaloosa, Iowa, but early in his boyhood, the family moved to New Mexico. It was 25 years ago in New Mexico that young Hitchcock began working for the Santa-Fe railroad and he has been associated with the same organization ever since. The major portion of the past 25 years have been devoted to the petroleum industry with the C. C. M. O., subsidiary of the Santa Fe railroad.

The new councilman has been a resident of Torrance since 1924, and during the past eight years has made a great many friends in this city. Mrs. Hitchcock, wife of the councilman, is also well known in this city, having served as president of the Parent Teachers Association two years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Hitchcock have two children, Mildred, 14, and Donald, 9, both attending Torrance schools.

At the Tuesday council meeting, Councilman Earl Conner placed Mr. Hitchcock's name before the board for appointment to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Dr. G. A. R. Steiner. Conner characterized Hitchcock as competent, a man of high character and moral standing, and one who was not alienated with any group or faction.

Councilman Ludlow commented very favorably upon Mr. Hitchcock, stating that he had heard many things about the proposed councilman. He stated that Mr. Hitchcock did not seek the position but had to be urged to accept it. Ludlow stated that for the sake of keeping the council working harmoniously as a unit, he felt that the appointment should be made from outside any political organizations or factions. Ludlow also stated that he felt the ideal way of filling the vacancy was to hold an election, but that the cost would have been \$800 to \$800, and he didn't think the city should spend the money. He suggested that the voters be given an opportunity at the November general election to ratify the appointment and said he believed Mr. Hitchcock felt the same way about it.

Councilman Wright, who had previously seconded Conner's motion to appoint Hitchcock, stated he agreed with the sentiments of Conner and Ludlow.

However, not so with Mayor Klusman. He attacked Hitchcock for his connection with the C. C. M. O. He re-hashed the C. C. M. O. water pipe system, and he warned of possible private privileges. Mayor Klusman stated that his first choice to fill the vacancy was Beverly B. Smith and his second choice, Carl Gramling, Sr. Petitions sponsoring both of these men were read earlier in the meeting. No discussion followed the mayor's remarks, the other members of the council demanding a vote on Hitchcock, who was appointed by a 3 to 1 vote. Mayor Klusman cast the negative vote.

The council was also forced to override the mayor's veto in the meeting when he objected to appointing Hitchcock as chairman of the public works committee, which position was held by Dr. Steiner. Finally, however, the council voted 3 to 1 to appoint Councilman Hitchcock on all committee vacancies caused by the death of Dr. Steiner. This action named the new councilman chairman of the public works committee, as well as a member of the finance, police and fire committees.

Veterans Relief Needs Supply of Jars For Canning

Fruit jars of all sizes and descriptions are wanted by the Veterans Relief Association which is gathering fruits and vegetables for canning. The Torrance Relief Society is doing the work for the veterans, and as fast as they can be supplied with the necessary containers the supply will be put up for winter.

In this way many perishable fruits which are not on the market later can be saved. Any housewife who has more fruit jars or jelly glasses than she has use for in her own home is invited to turn over the surplus to the Relief Association where they will be put to work.

Findley Appointed C. of C. Treasurer

Donald Findley was appointed treasurer of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce at a meeting of the directors this week, to succeed Harry H. Dolley, who resigned. Mr. Dolley will continue as a director of the chamber. He was tendered a vote of thanks for his services as treasurer by the directorate.

At that time Sepulveda boulevard was being resturveyed. The lines were laid according to lines then established, but since then the company has been obliged to tear out 1286 feet in 1929, and another 3520 feet in 1930, in order to get it off private property. A total of 4886 feet of this line was through the Soldiers' home at west Los Angeles.

PICKED



The new member of the Torrance city council, James E. Hitchcock, is a fisherman. Plenty of evidence of this is shown in the picture above. The big 88-pound tuna was successfully landed by the new councilman last summer off Balboa, and an obliging photographer caught Mr. Hitchcock's characteristic broad smile as he posed beside the big tuna.

Shell Company Asks Credit On Pipe Line Fees

Claiming that it has overpaid the city of Los Angeles to the extent of \$913 for the privilege of operating its pipe lines installed in 1926, the Shell Oil Company has filed a claim with the Los Angeles city council asking a credit of that amount on future payments. The city attorney's office recommends that it be allowed.

The lines in question were laid between Chatsworth and Wilmington in 1926, a distance of approximately 30 miles. In the San Fernando valley, the line follows Roscoe boulevard and Sepulveda boulevard. South of the Santa Monica mountains it follows Arizona street, Normandie avenue and other streets.

At that time Sepulveda boulevard was being resturveyed. The lines were laid according to lines then established, but since then the company has been obliged to tear out 1286 feet in 1929, and another 3520 feet in 1930, in order to get it off private property. A total of 4886 feet of this line was through the Soldiers' home at west Los Angeles.

Findley Appointed C. of C. Treasurer

Donald Findley was appointed treasurer of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce at a meeting of the directors this week, to succeed Harry H. Dolley, who resigned. Mr. Dolley will continue as a director of the chamber. He was tendered a vote of thanks for his services as treasurer by the directorate.

At that time Sepulveda boulevard was being resturveyed. The lines were laid according to lines then established, but since then the company has been obliged to tear out 1286 feet in 1929, and another 3520 feet in 1930, in order to get it off private property. A total of 4886 feet of this line was through the Soldiers' home at west Los Angeles.

Gala Opening of Theatre Is Set For Aug. 19

New Management to Give Torrance High Class Programs

Work on the alterations and improvements at the Torrance Theatre are being rushed so that everything will be in readiness for the gala opening under the new management on Friday, August 19. Plans are now under way for the personal appearance of a number of radio and motion picture stars on the opening night. Powerful Klieg lights will shoot their bright shafts into the heavens and many other features which accompany metropolitan theatre openings are planned for the big night on August 19.

Veteran Showman

Louis Kaplan, the new lessee of the Torrance Theatre, is a veteran showman, having devoted over 30 years to theatrical enterprises in the east as well as on the Pacific Coast. He was formerly president of Santa Barbara Theatres, Inc., operating all theatres in Santa Barbara for a period of ten years, and establishing a reputation for high class programs. The Santa Barbara Theatres were recently sold to Warner Brothers, who are now operating them. In addition to the Torrance Theatre, Mr. Kaplan also owns and operates two theatres in San Diego. He is enthusiastic over the possibilities of operating a truly first class theatre in Torrance.

M.-G.-M. Pictures

It will be the policy of Mr. Kaplan to show exclusive first run major productions at the Torrance Theatre. Contracts have been closed with Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, Warner Brothers First National, Paramount, R. K. O., Pathé, Fox, United Artists, Columbia and Universal studios. Previously Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer pictures were not shown in Torrance and much better programs will be possible due to Mr. Kaplan's affiliations with this important producing company. Nothing but the best releases will be shown in Torrance, according to TURN TO STORY ONE Page Five

Torrance Enters Two Candidates In Turtle Race

Local Chamber of Commerce Signs Up "Torrance" and "Industry"

"Torrance" and "Industry" are the Torrance Chamber of Commerce entries in the widely advertised turtle race to be held at Harbor City, Saturday, August 13. "Torrance" is a husky young fellow of 18 years, full of pep and ginger and is looked upon as a favorite to pull out in front of the field. His teammate, "Industry," is somewhat younger but he is large for his age, and while he has been kept on pretty short rations for the past two years, his backers see in him a strong contender for the honors. Both boys are in good condition to make the race of their lives. There will be no rabbits in the competition to set the pace for the Torrance entries, but in a recent interview "Industry" was heard to remark that a loose hare was as much out of place in a turtle race as a hair in the butter at a boarding house. "The guy that gets in front of me in this race is going to have to crack a shell to stay there," he finished.

Government Flour Only For Needy and Distressed Families

"Flour furnished by the government, which is being distributed under the direction of the American Red Cross, is only for the needy and distressed," says Mrs. Caroline Collins, agent in charge of the work in Torrance. "There seems to be a misunderstanding of the conditions under which this flour is given out, as some persons are making application who are able to purchase their supplies from the groceries, under the impression that the government supply is free to all who ask for it. This is not the case, and only those who are unable to buy flour will be supplied. Others are requested to save themselves the time and trouble of calling for flour at the agency as their requests must be refused."

Newspapers Laud Steel Company's Expansion

The importance of Columbia Steel's huge expansion program at Torrance has been fully recognized by Southland metropolitan newspapers, many of which featured the half million dollar improvement in conspicuous news stories. Of interest too, are the editorial comments of the Los Angeles Times and the Long Beach Press-Telegram, which are reprinted below:

Long Beach Press-Telegram Says

"Probably the most significant announcement since the turn in the economic road became visible to the average eye was that sent out from Torrance on August 4. It told of the issuance of a building permit for a \$400,000 addition to the Columbia Steel plant, and the immediate start of construction.

"This is the beginning of important industrial operations in the south coast section. The harbor district and all surrounding communities will share the activities; for this development more than ever confirms Long Beach as the Western center of Ford manufacturing, which benefits the entire Southwest. Plates will be pressed at the Ford plant here for shipment to branches at Richmond, Portland and Seattle.

"For some years, Torrance has been the most important steel center on the Pacific Coast. The expansion movement now under way indicates the intention of United States Steel—parent of Columbia—to keep in the lead; a logical ambition, inasmuch as by far the heaviest population in Western America is concentrated within 20 miles of Torrance.

"With the improvements now undertaken, the Torrance Columbia plant will be able to turn out plates for use in motor vehicle manufacture. Southern California now has two large automobile and truck factories, that of the Ford Company at Long Beach, and the Chrysler unit soon to be opened on East Slauson avenue.

"That Ford has contracted for steel plates for his Western needs was stated some weeks ago. Heretofore, these plates have been shipped by water from Chester, Pa., to the Ford docks on Carrizos Channel. To make these plates in Southern California not only speaks of the enlargement of the steel industry in these parts, but promises an increasing payroll.

"With adjustments such as these taking place as a normal phase of business revival, the public may look with confidence on the future of industry and commerce in this area.

"Torrance is less than 11 miles distant from Long Beach; less than 10 miles from the Ford plant. With industry as the chief support of that progressive community, Torrance has had its trials during the past two years; and that it has been chosen as the central scene for the great comeback for which the West has been waiting, is a matter for mutual congratulations.

"Several hundred men will be put to work on this construction at Torrance. The company's old force, of course, will be given preference; and other former employees will be absorbed as manufacturing activities are stepped up. At one time, 5000 men were engaged in the Torrance steel plant. That those happy days will return, and new peaks be reached in employment, confidently may be expected.

"At the Ford site also, new units are contemplated, additional acreage having been acquired and prepared for such use before the 1929 break caused a general slowing down. As at Torrance, so at Long Beach and other points, there will be a taking up of deferred plans as conditions justify, with a cumulative effect of impressive proportions."—Long Beach Press-Telegram.

Los Angeles Times Says

"One of the most heartening pieces of industrial news printed in several years is that of the expansion plan of the Columbia Steel Corporation, a subsidiary of the United States Steel Corporation, at Torrance. A group of new buildings, including a 100-foot rolling mill, are to be built at a cost of \$400,000, and the preliminaries to construction have actually been started.

"Not only will this erection work provide immediate employment to a considerable group of men in the building trades, but the expansion will provide permanent jobs for many steel workers, and the products of the mills, to be worked up in local factories means still further increased employment.

"Steel, being a basic industry, is generally an accurate barometer of general business conditions, and improvement in the steel industry therefore means a good deal, not only locally, but to the country at large.

"The expanded Columbia plant will be the largest on the Pacific Coast, and the expansion pertains a general development of the steel industry here which in turn will aid the development of other manufactures. The granting in July of 21 permits by the State Corporation Commissioner, to new manufacturing concerns in the Southern California area, is symptomatic of the same sort of better feeling about business which inspired the Columbia activity. If prosperity has not already begun to return, that beginning cannot be far off."—Los Angeles Times.

Alex McPhail Is New Commander of Legion Post Here

Alex McPhail of Lomita was elected commander of the Bert S. Crossland Post No. 170, at the meeting held at the clubhouse on Monday, August 8. Other officers chosen were P. A. Phoenix, first vice commander; F. B. Boyle, second vice commander; Charles M. Smith, finance officer; J. R. Wilkes, chaplain; F. A. Tiffany, historian; W. F. Mallin, sergeant-at-arms; W. H. Stanger, service officer; H. C. Barrington, W. J. Sager and E. L. Patterson, executive committee. Billy Ferguson, nominee for commander of the 19th district, was a guest at this meeting.

The drum corps, which was recently voted \$400 by the city council to defray its expenses to Oakland, will start for the northern city early Sunday morning. Competition in which a large number of posts will take part will be held on August 15, and the Torrance boys confidently expect to come home with the honors.

MIKE WAS HERE

Michael Strasser, former city editor of the Torrance Herald, now editor of the Corona Daily Independent, paid a brief visit to Torrance friends Saturday afternoon.

The county board of supervisors formally accepted title to the lot on which the new Torrance health center is being erected, upon recommendation of the county council, which has cleared up a legal point that for a few days was the cause of some concern. Taxes for 1930-31 on the lot were delinquent, and the property was sold to the state. It then was offered to the county for a health center site, providing the county assumed the taxes. This week the county council advised the supervisors that "in our opinion the board may accept the lot."

"If the board orders the deed recorded the taxes, now a lien against the property, can be cancelled," the opinion reads. The deed was accepted from the Dominguez Land Company.

Democrats Lead In Registration In Seventeenth

Women Adhere to G. O. P. While Men Rally to the Opposition Standard

The first supervisorial district still is the largest in point of registered voters in Los Angeles county, according to a detailed tabulation of voters made public to Torrance residents today by Registrar of Voters W. M. Kerr. The fourth district, embracing Torrance still is a close second, however, as the following comparative figures reveal:

First district, 253,563; second district, 198,277; third district, 217,105; fourth district, 251,378; fifth district, 214,616.

Analysis of the figures reveal that there are more women than men registered as Republicans in the first, second, third and fifth districts, while men lead the Democratic and every other political classification all through.

Congressional district registration in Torrance and vicinity follows:

17th district—Republicans, 50,988; Democrats, 52,250; men, 62,805; women, 50,822; total, 113,127.

68th district—Republicans, 13,962; Democrats, 13,613; men, 17,234; women, 12,709; total, 29,943.

Torrance is not one of the 17 incorporated cities in the county in which women lead men in number of registered voters eligible to cast ballots at the August 30 primary election.

To be exact, men outnumber women by approximately 600. Of the 3508 voters in the city, 1928 are men and 1570 are women. Men outnumber women in all political parties in the city.

Further analysis of the figures reveals that Republicans have a larger lead over Democrats here than in the average of the 44 incorporated cities in the county. There are 1886 Republicans as compared with 1388 Democrats.

There are no members of the Liberty party, and there are six men and six women prohibitionists.

Veterans Relief Needs More Men Say Assistants

Organization Is Going On Smoothly After Three Weeks of Endeavor

Going into the fourth week of the existence of the Veterans Relief Association finds that organization still functioning very smoothly. The same daily average of families is being cared for, 83 of them, with an average of four persons to the family.

Supplies of food stuffs are plentiful, and the men at work around the warehouse are busy keeping the vegetables sorted and in good condition.

According to the reports from those in charge of the warehouse, there is a greater shortage of men than there is of supplies. More men are needed, and anyone who wishes to take advantage of this chance to get fresh vegetables, milk, bread or fish, in exchange for labor can be accommodated.

Besides food, there are other necessary accommodations. Haircuts, automobile repair for the cars of workers, shoe repairing, all these can be obtained on the same terms as food. A merchant recently donated some straw hats, which were quickly fitted on heads to wear them.

The "Weekly Stimulator," a bulletin issued from the office of the establishment, gives a line on the activities of each and every worker, and adds a humorous note to the daily task.

Harbor City Man Struck By P. E. Car Dies In Hospital

Fatally injured when struck by a Pacific Electric car at Hughes avenue and Venice boulevard, W. H. Copping, 82, of Harbor City, died early Wednesday at the Culver City Community hospital. According to Culver City police who investigated the accident, the elderly man stepped in the path of the outboard car speeding to the beach, evidently not hearing its approach.

Inquest will be held at 9:30 o'clock Friday morning at the mortuary in Culver City, according to the coroner's office.

CITY TAX RATE SET AT 83c BUDGET IS REDUCED \$3,800

Councilman Ludlow Offers Figures to Justify 15-Cent Increase; Valuations Lowered Nearly 31 Per Cent

The municipal tax rate in Torrance as officially adopted this week by the city council is 83 cents per \$100 assessed valuation. This is an increase of 15 cents over last year's rate, due principally, according to Councilman Ludlow, chairman of the finance committee, to a reduction in assessed valuations of nearly 31 per cent over last year's valuations. The 83-cent rate applies to the "old city," and the rate in the annexed territories is fixed at 78 cents.

A tentative budget of \$163,513.24, previously adopted, was reduced to \$159,706, on Ludlow's recommendations. The council unanimously adopted the lowered budget, but Mayor Klusman voted against the 83-cent tax rate. Only \$10,000 is provided in the new budget for the relief of unemployed, as against \$17,000 expended last year, and \$6500 is taken from the so-called Chamber of Commerce 10-cent promotion tax to defray expenses in the maintaining of parks. The Metropolitan Water District assessment will be collected as a separate item on the tax bill.

In explaining the budget, Councilman Ludlow prepared a group of statistics and comparisons with last year's figures, which he displayed on the new council blackboard. These figures, as taken from the blackboard, are printed below:

Valuations, Revenues, Tax Rates

VALUATIONS—	1931-2	1932-3
Old Town	\$11,538,855	\$ 8,139,110
Annexed Territory	12,549,305	10,275,760
Totals	\$24,088,160	\$18,414,870

GENERAL PURPOSE TAXES—

Last Year @ 55c	\$132,484	
This Year @ 83c		\$125,221

BOND RETIREMENT, OLD TOWN—

Last Year @ 3c	3,462	
This Year @ 5c		4,070
Revenue and Balance On Hand	17,800	12,000
Parks, Music, Adv. @ 10c	24,088	18,415
Totals	\$47,734	\$159,706

TAX RATES—

Old Town	1931-2	1932-3
	.83	.83
Annexed Districts	.65	.78

Budget Comparisons

GENERAL PURPOSE TAX—	1931-2	1932-3
General Government	\$ 18,500	\$ 17,885
Protection Life and Property	57,050	49,450
Health and Sanitation	6,750	6,080
Street Department	38,800	38,800
Park Department	6,500	Same Amt. from C. of C. Fund
Extras (Including Met. Water Dist.)	24,371	5,950
Totals	\$151,971	\$115,985
Reductions		\$36,006

Estimated 1932-3 Balance Sheet

General Purpose Tax	\$125,221
Required	115,985
Balance	\$ 9,236
Revenue and Balance On Hand	12,000
Unallocated Reserve	\$21,236

Going into the fourth week of the existence of the Veterans Relief Association finds that organization still functioning very smoothly. The same daily average of families is being cared for, 83 of them, with an average of four persons to the family.

New Set License Fees Proposed In Ordinance

The proposed new city business license ordinance was read for the first time this week by City Attorney Jensen at the meeting of the city council. It calls for a \$12 per year license from all but the following classifications:

Bakeries outside city, \$48 year; circuses, \$50 a day; pool and billiard rooms, \$24 year; boxing matches, \$10 a day; mystics, \$50 year; dance halls and theatres, \$24 year; book peddlers, \$1 a day; lunch carts, \$48 year; food peddlers, \$48 year; jewelry and other merchandise peddlers, \$5 day; other peddlers on foot, \$5 day; milk distributors, \$12 per vehicle; salesmen selling house-to-house from samples, \$10 month; laundries, \$100 year; outside laundries, \$100 per vehicle; outside cleaners and dyers, \$24 year; pawn brokers, \$24 year; sewing machine agents, \$10 day; and distributors of hand bills, \$50 day. Electrical contractors are required to put up a bond for \$1000. It is unlawful under the proposed new ordinance for peddlers and agents to call at residences displaying "No peddlers or agents" signs.

The new license ordinance is scheduled for final adoption on August 23, the next meeting of the council.

RIPPY FAMILY LEAVE ON VACATION TRIP

Judge C. T. Rippy and his family left this week for a short vacation in the mountains north of Bishop. They will be absent about one week.

During the judge's absence Judge John Dennis of the justice court will preside over city cases.

BUILDING PERMIT

J. C. Torrey took out a building permit in the sum of \$1500 for the erection of a one-story stucco building at 2314 Dominguez street. The building when completed will be used for restaurant purposes, housing the P. E. cafe.

The state highway commission is asked to construct a 30-foot highway near the Redondo Beach city limits, providing a connection or in reality a continuation for Sepulveda boulevard from Torrance boulevard in Redondo via Elena street with State street, in a resolution forwarded to the commission by the board of supervisors this week.

The resolution was introduced by Supervisor John R. Quinn, of the Fourth district. Provision for the connection is made in the regional plan of highways. Supervisor Quinn pointed out. The county regional planning commission already has established a 100-foot setback line along this link, it was pointed out. It is understood that the Huntington Land Company will dedicate an additional 10 feet on the east side of Elena street between State street and the south end of Tract No. 2546.

It is also understood that land will be dedicated on a minimum of a 500-foot radius curve to a direct connection for this extension via Elena street, with the State street project.